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A New Southwestern Sophia.

BY T. D. A. COCKERELL.

SOPHIA HALICTORUM.

Annual; branching from the base, spreading, bushy, but not decumbent; about 40 cm. high, or often taller, whitish-green, with pubescence consisting of very short branched hairs, replaced on the green peduncles mainly by hyaline knobbed glandular hairs, so that the upper parts of the plant are not canescent: stems purple at base: leaves pinnatifid, with linear divisions: the lower leaves bipinnatifid, the divisions all linear and rather long: flowers minute, yellow: stamens considerably exceeding the petals: calyx with sparse white hairs: mature pods pinkish, 11 mm. long, their pedicels 5 or 6 mm.; seeds in two very distinct rows, bright orange, covered with minute tubercles arranged in longitudinal series: pedicels divergent or slightly ascending, and the pods 4-carinate, entirely glabrous.

Mesilla Park, New Mexico, in the zone of mesquite and *Atriplex canescens*, flowering in March and April and very abundant. It is freely visited by bees of the genus *Halictus*, whence the specific name. It occurs in dry places, also in the bottom land, but in irrigated fields it is replaced by *S. ochroleuca* Wooton, which is paler, more spreading, with yellowish-white flowers, more dissected leaves with much shorter segments, and no knobbed gland-hairs on the peduncles. In my bee-papers, I have referred to *S. halictorum* as *Sisymbrium canescens*, but it differs widely from that plant (which I was familiar with in Colorado) in its general appearance, leaves, flowers and fruit. (Compare the figures in Britton and Brown, Ill. Fl. 2: 145.) In some respects it more resembles *S. Hartwegiana*, but the segments of the leaves are longer and the pedicels are conspicuously divergent. The flower is most like that of *S. Hartwegiana*, but the seeds are always conspicuously in two rows.

MESILLA PARK, N. M.,
May 7, 1898.